## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

To be Assigned Application No.:

Yoshikazu IKENOUE, Hideo KUMASHIRO, and Applicant(s):

Munehiro NAKATANI

IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND COPY For:

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

To be Assigned Confirmation No.:

24367 Customer No.:

05058/16306 Docket No.:

Concurrently Filed:

Prior Application:

U.S. Serial No.: 08/911,101

Confirmation No.: 3290

Filed: August 14, 1997

Group Art Unit: 2623

Examiner: Jon Chang

Allowed: September 8, 2003

## MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO.: EV 411784693 US DATE OF DEPOSIT: DECEMBER 5, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

> Derrick T. Gordon Name of Person Mailing Paper

> > Signature December 5, 2003

Date of Signature

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The following is a preliminary amendment which is being submitted concurrently with the filing of a Divisional Application.

Application No.: To Be Assigned
Preliminary Amendment dated December 5, 2003

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified application, filed concurrently herewith, please amend this Application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.